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The physical characters of each of these formations is briefly described, though no lists of fossils are given by which the faunas may be compared with those of the supposed equivalent strata elsewhere.

The remainder of the report will have its chief interest and usefulness among the local geologists of the region described.

STUART WELLER.

Final Report on the Geology of Minnesota. Palæontology. Vol. III, Part II. Minneapolis, Minn., 1897.

Part II of the *Palæontology of Minnesota*, a volume of about 600 pages, illustrated by forty-eight plates besides 133 figures, has just appeared. Like its companion volume, Part I, it treats only of the Ordovician fossils. Besides the introduction, which is a paper by N. H. Winchell and E. O. Ulrich upon "The Lower Silurian deposits of the Upper Mississippi province; a correlation of the strata with those in the Cincinnati, Tennessee, New York, and Canadian provinces, and the stratigraphic and geographic distribution of the fossils," the volume contains the following papers:

1. The Lower Silurian Lamellibranchiata of Minnesota. By E. O. Ulrich.
2. The Lower Silurian Ostracoda of Minnesota. By E. O. Ulrich.
3. The Lower Silurian Trilobites of Minnesota. By J. M. Clarke.
4. The Lower Silurian Cephalopoda of Minnesota. By J. M. Clarke.
5. The Lower Silurian Gastropoda of Minnesota. By E. O. Ulrich and W. H. Scofield.

The first three of these papers were published separately in small editions and distributed during the period from June 16, 1894, to September 27, 1894. The last two papers appear for the first time with the publication of the complete volume.

The volume supplies a long-felt want to students of the Ordovician faunas of the West, and will doubtless be the standard work upon these faunas in the Mississippi region for many years. The author of the chapters upon the Lamellibranchiata and Gastropoda should perhaps have been more conservative in establishing new genera and species; however the classification of the greater number of the classes of organisms abundantly preserved as fossils in the palæozoic rocks, is at present in a transition state, and any attempt to make more natural, and to give more definiteness to their classification is a step in advance.

STUART WELLER.